REMARKS

Claims 13-16 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of June 9, 2003, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inagaki et al. '281 in view of Sato et al. '839.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 12 have been cancelled and replaced by new claims 13-16. New claim 13 recites an optical recording medium for improved, accurate, high speed writing, the optical recording medium comprising a specified cyanine dye and a specified light-resistant improver in a specific molar ratio of the light-resistant improver to the cyanine dye in the range of 0.01 to 5.

Support for the light-resistant improver and the molar ratio of the improver to the cyanine dye can be found in the specification as field at page 14, third line from the bottom, to page 15, fifth line from the bottom. It should be noted that the compound 4-nitroso-4'-dimethylamino-

diphenylamine recited in line 6 of claim 13 is the compound represented by Chemical Formula 21, and was used in Example 5 at pages 31-32 as a light resistant improver.

New claim 14 defines "metal complexes" recited in claim 13 are a light-resistant improver. Support for new claim 14 can be found in the specification as field at page 15, lines 1-8.

Because the cyanine dyes used in the optical recording medium as defined in claim 13 have a relatively high solubility in organic solvents, they provide improved working efficiency in preparing optical recording media. In addition, since an optical recording medium as defined in claim 13 comprises a specified light-resistant improver in a specific molar ratio to the cyanine dyes, the optical recording medium of the claimed invention is quite stable, and the medium is not subject to deterioration, fading, color change, or quality changes, which may be induces by exposing the optical recording medium to environmental lights, such as reading lights and natural light. These are the remarkable advantages of the optical recording medium of the present invention, which are neither taught nor suggested by either of Inagaki et al. or Sato et al.

Neither Inagaki et al. nor Sato et al. disclose such optical recording media comprising the herein specified

cyanine dyes and the specific light-resistant improvers in the molar ratio claimed herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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